

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application. Upon entry of the above amendment, claims 1-10 remain pending in the application.

Rejection of Claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,090,178 to *Benini*. Applicant submits that, upon entry of the above amendment, this basis of rejection now is moot because *Benini* neither teaches or suggests the volume ratio of iron powder to at least one of tin, zinc, or alloys or mixtures thereof as set forth in amended claim 1. Indeed, *Benini* is silent as to volume ratios of any of the metals set forth therein. The only ratio between metals set forth in *Benini* is between copper and tin and is given by weight. On a volume basis, the given ratio of tin to copper is not close to that set forth in the amended claim 1. Accordingly, *Benini* does not make obvious amended claim 1, nor claims 2-10 which depend from claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant requests withdrawal of this basis of rejection.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the present application now is in condition for allowance and requests prompt notification thereof. However, if Examiner believes any issue remains in the present application, Applicant respectfully requests that Examiner contact the undersigned.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required for the timely consideration of this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 09-0528.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

D. Scott Sudderth
D. Scott Sudderth
Registration No. 34,026
Attorney for Applicant

Customer No. 26158
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC
P.O. Box 7037
Atlanta, GA 30357-0037
(404) 962-7527 (Telephone)
(404) 870-8177 (Facsimile)

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R. O. S.